

T. Moore, Morrow, Mosely, Newton, Pearson, Pitkin, Rea, (Pen.) Rhen, (Ten.) Richards, Roane, Root, Sammons, Scudder, Seibert, Shaw, Smilie, G. Smith, J. Smith, S. Smith, Southard, Stanley, Stanford, Stephenson, Tallmadge, Taylor, Thompson, Tracy, Troup, Van Dyke, Van Horn, Van Rensselaer, Weakley, Whitehill, Wilson, Winn, Witherspoon, Wright.

Eighty-one members, nine more than sufficient to constitute a quorum, having appeared.

On motion of Mr. Dawson, a committee was appointed, jointly with such committee as should be appointed by the Senate, to wait on the President of the U. S. & inform him that a quorum of the two Houses were assembled, and ready to receive any communications which he may have to make. Messrs. Dawson and Shaw were named on this committee.

On motion of Mr. Smilie, the usual rule was adopted for furnishing the members with newspapers.

The Clerk of the House having returned from the Senate, and apprized the House that a quorum of that body was not yet assembled.

The House adjourned till to-morrow morning 11 o'clock.

[Taken from the Alexandria Gazette.]

TUESDAY, Dec. 4.

At a quarter before 12 the house was called to order, and the Clerk read the journal.

No business was transacted till 1 o'clock when Mr. Otis from the Senate informed the house that a quorum of the Senate was convened, and were ready to proceed to business.

A few minutes afterwards Mr. Otis again entered the house with a message from the Senate announcing their appointment of a committee to join the committee of the house for the purpose of waiting on the President, &c.

At 2 o'clock the committee returned from the President's, and Mr. Dawson reported that the President would communicate by message, to-morrow at 12 o'clock, and the house immediately adjourned.

WASHINGTON CITY, Dec. 5.

The President of the U. States this day communicated by Mr. Ewd. Coles, his private Secretary, the following Message to Congress:

Fellow Citizens of the Senate, and of the House of Representatives,

THE embarrassments which have prevailed in our foreign relations, and so much employed the deliberations of Congress, make it a primary duty, in meeting you, to communicate whatever may have occurred, in that branch of our national affairs.

The act of the last session of Congress "concerning the commercial intercourse between the U. States and G. Britain and France & their dependencies" having invited, in a new form, a termination of their edicts against our neutral commerce, copies of the act were immediately forwarded to our ministers at London and Paris; with a view that its object might be within the early attention of the French and British governments.

By the communication received through our Minister at Paris, it appeared, that a knowledge of the act by the French government, was followed by a declaration that the Berlin and Milan decrees were revoked, and would cease to have effect on the first day of November ensuing. These being the only known edicts of France, within the description of the act, and the revocation of them, being such that they ceased, at that date, to violate our neutral commerce; the fact, as prescribed by law, was announced by a proclamation bearing date the 2d day of Nov.

It would have well accorded with the conciliatory views, indicated by this proceeding on the part of France, to have extended them to all the grounds of just complaint, which now remain unadjusted with the U. States. It was particularly anticipated that, as a further evidence of just dispositions towards them, restoration would have been immediately made of the property of our citizens seized under a misapplication of the principle of reprisals, combined with a misconstruction of a law of the U. States. This expectation has not been fulfilled.

From the British government no communication on the subject of the act has been received. To a communication from our minister at London of the revocation, by the French government, of its Berlin and Milan decrees, it was answered, that the British system would be relinquished as soon as the repeal of the French decrees should have actually taken effect, and the commerce of neutral nations have been restored to the condition in which it stood, previously to the promulgation of those decrees. This pledge, although it does not necessarily import, does not exclude the intention of relinquishing along with the orders in council, the practice of those novel blockades which have a like effect of interrupting our neutral commerce. And this further justice to the U. S. is the rather to be looked for, inasmuch as the blockades in question, being not more contrary to the established law of nations, than inconsistent with the rules of blockade formerly recognized by G. B. herself, could have no alleged basis, other than the plea of retaliation, alleged as the basis of the orders in council. Under the modification of the original orders of November 1807, into the orders of April 1809, there is indeed scarcely a nominal distinction between the orders and the blockades. One of those illegitimate blockades, bearing date in May 1806, having been expressly avowed to be still unrescinded, and to be, in effect, comprehended in the orders in council, was too distinctly brought within the purview of the act of Congress, not to be comprehended in the explanation of the requisites to a compliance with it. The British government was accordingly apprized by our minister near it, that such was the light in which the subject was to be regarded.

On the other important subjects depending between the U. States and that government, no progress has been made, from which an early and satisfactory result can be relied on.

In this new posture of our relations with those powers, the consideration of congress will be properly turned towards a removal of doubts which may occur in the exposition, and of difficulties in the execution, of the act above cited.

The commerce of the U. States with the North of Europe, heretofore much vexed by licentious cruisers, particularly by the Danish flag, has lately been visited with fresh and extensive depredations. The measures pursued in behalf of our injured citizens not having obtained justice for them, a further and more formal interposition with the Danish government is contemplated. The principles which have been maintained by that government in relation to neutral commerce, and the friendly professions of his Danish majesty towards the U. States are valuable pledges in favor of a successful issue.

Among the events growing out of the state of the Spanish monarchy our attention was imperiously attracted to the change developing itself in that portion of West Florida, which though of right appertaining to the U. S., had remained in the possession of Spain, awaiting the result of negotiations for its actual delivery to them. The Spanish authority was subverted; and a situation produced exposing the country to all the rights and welfare of the union. In such a conjuncture, I did not delay the interposition required for the occupancy of the territory west of the river Perdido, to which the title of the U. S. extends, and to which the laws provided for the territory of Orleans are applicable. With this view, the Proclamation, a copy of which is laid before you, was confided to the governor of that territory to be carried into effect. The legality and necessity of the course pursued, assure me of the favorable light in which it will present itself to the legislature, and of the promptitude with which they will supply whatever provisions may be due to the essential rights and equitable interests of the people thus brought into the bosom of the American family.

Our amity with the powers of Barbary, with the exception of a recent occurrence at Tunis, of which an explanation is just received, appears to have been uninterrupted, and to have become more firmly established.

With the Indian tribes also the peace and friendship of the U. States are found to be so eligible, that the general disposition to preserve both continues to gain strength.

I feel particular satisfaction in remarking that an interior view of our country presents us with grateful proofs of its substantial and increasing prosperity. To a thriving agriculture and the improvements related to it, is added a highly interesting extension of useful manufactures; the combined product of professional occupations, and of household industry. Such indeed is the experience of economy, as well as policy, in these substitutes for supplies heretofore obtained by foreign commerce, that in a national view the change is justly regarded as of itself more than a recompense for those privations and losses resulting from foreign injustice, which furnished the general impulse, required for its accomplishment. How far it may be expedient to guard the infancy of this improvement in the distribution of labor, by regulations of the commercial tariff, is a subject which cannot fail to suggest itself to your patriotic reflections.

It will rest with the consideration of congress also whether a provident as well as fair encouragement would not be given to our navigation by such regulations as will place it on a level of competition with foreign vessels, particularly in transporting the important and bulky productions of our own soil. The failure of equality and reciprocity in the existing regulations on this subject operates, in our ports, as a premium to foreign competitors; and the inconvenience must increase as these may be multiplied, under more favorable circumstances, by the more than countervailing encouragements now given them, by the laws of their respective countries.

Whilst it is universally admitted that a well instructed people alone can be permanently a free people; and whilst it is evident that the means of diffusing and improving useful knowledge form so small a proportion of the expenditures for national purposes, I cannot presume it to be unreasonable, to invite your attention to the advantages of superadding, to the means of education provided by the several states, a seminary of learning, instituted by the national legislature, within the limits of their exclusive jurisdiction; the expense of which might be defrayed, or reimbursed, out of the vacant grounds which have accrued to the nation within these limits.

Such an institution, though local in its legal character, would be universal in its beneficial effects. By enlightening the opinions; by expanding the patriotism; and by assimilating the principles, the sentiments and the manners of those who might resort to this temple of science, to be redistributed, in due time, through every part of the community; sources of jealousy and prejudice would be diminished, the features of national character would be multiplied, and greater extent given to social harmony. But above all, a well constituted seminary, in the centre of the nation, is recommended by the consideration that it would contribute no less to strengthen the foundation, than to adorn the structure, of our free and happy system of government.

Among the commercial abuses still committed under the American flag, and leaving in force my former reference to that subject, it appears that American citizens are instrumental in carrying on a traffic in enslaved Africans, equally in violation of the laws of humanity, and in defiance of those of their own country. The same just and benevolent motives which produced the interdiction in force against this criminal conduct, will doubtless be felt by Congress in devising further means of suppressing the evil.

In the midst of uncertainties necessarily connected with the great interests of the U. States, prudence requires a continuance of our defensive and precautionary arrangements. The secretary of war and secretary of the navy will submit the statements and estimates which may aid Congress in their ensuing provisions for the land and naval forces. The statements of the latter will include a view of the transfers of appropriations in the naval expenditures, and the grounds on which they were made.

The fortifications for the defence of our maritime frontier have been prosecuted according to the plan laid down in 1809. The works, with some exceptions, are completed, and furnished with ordinance. Those for the security of the City of New York, though far advanced towards completion, will require a further time and appropriation. This is the case with a few others, either not completed, or in need of repairs.

The improvements, in quality and quantity, made in the manufactory of cannon; and of small arms, both at the public arsenals and private factories, warranted additional confidence in the competency of these resources, for supplying the public exigencies.

These preparations for arming the militia having thus far provided for one of the objects contemplated by the power vested in Congress, with respect to that great bulwark of the public safety; it is for their consideration, whether further provisions are not requisite, for the other contemplated objects, of organization and discipline. To give to this great mass of physical and moral force, the efficiency which it merits, and is capable of receiving; it is indispensable that they should be instructed and practised in the rules by which they are to be governed. Towards an accomplishment of this important work, I recommend for the consideration of Congress, the expediency of instituting a system, which shall, in the first instance, call into the field, at the public expense, and for a given time, certain portions of the commissioned and non-commissioned officers. The instruction and discipline thus acquired would gradually diffuse through the entire body of the militia that practical knowledge and promptitude for active service, which are the great ends to be pursued. Experience has left no doubt, either of the necessity, or of the efficacy, of competent military skill, in those portions of an army, in fitting it for the final duties, which it may have to perform.

The Corps of Engineers, with the Military Academy, are entitled to the early attention of Congress. The Buildings at the seat, fixed by law, for the present Academy are so far in decay, as not to afford the necessary accommodation. But a revision of the law is recommended, principally with a view to a more enlarged cultivation and diffusion of the advantages of such institutions, by providing professorships for all the necessary branches of military instruction, and by the establishment of an additional Academy, at the Seat of Government, or elsewhere. The means by which war, as well for defence, as for offence, are now carried on, render these schools of the more scientific operations an indispensable part of every adequate system. Even among nations whose large standing armies and frequent wars afford every other opportunity of instruction, these establishments are found to be indispensable for the due attainment of the branches of military science, which require a regular course of study and experiment. In a government, happily without the other opportunities, seminaries, where the elementary principles of the art of war can be taught without actual war and without the expense of extensive standing armies, have the precious advantage of uniting an essential preparation against external danger, with a scrupulous regard to internal safety. In no other way, probably, can a provision of equal efficacy for the public defence be made at so little expense or more consistently with the public liberty.

The receipts into the Treasury during the year ending on the 30th of September last (and amounting to more than eight millions and a half of dollars) have exceeded the current expenses of the Government, including the interest on the public debt. For the purpose of reimbursing at the end of the year 3,750,000 dollars of the principal loan authorized by law, had been negotiated to that amount; but has since been reduced to 2,750,000 dollars; the reduction being permitted by the state of the Treasury; in which there will be a balance, remaining at the end of the year, estimated at 2,000,000 dollars. For the probable receipts of the next year, and other details I refer to statements which will be transmitted from the Treasury, and which will enable you to judge what further provisions may be necessary for the ensuing years.

Reserving for future occasions, in the course of the Session, whatever other communications may claim your attention, I close the present, by expressing my reliance, under the blessing of Divine Providence, on the judgment and patriotism which will guide your measures, at a period particularly calling for united Councils, and inflexible exertions for the welfare of our country; and by assuring you of the fidelity and alacrity with which my co-operation will be afforded.

JAMES MADISON.

Domestic.

KNOXVILLE, Nov. 24.

We have conversed with a gentleman from the garrison in Madison county, who informs that orders had been issued by Col. Smith, of the Rifle corps, to the settlers on the Indian lands, particularly those on the tract commonly called Doublehead's reserve, requiring them to remove, before a given day in November. The colonel accompanied his orders by an address, in which he pointed out the propriety of obedience, and the disagreeable consequences that would follow resistance. The people residing on the reserve, in their answer to the colonel's address, promise a compliance with his orders, and feelingly describe their situation, and the difficulties they must encounter in their removal from the want of wagons, boats, &c. They state the entire loss of their crops, and the want of sustenance for their families, will ensue, if their removal takes place at the time appointed, and pray all the indulgence the colonel had power to grant. Our informant adds that the time was prolonged till some day in January next.

A. Gaz.

We are informed by a gentleman who was present when the following discovery was made, and on the fidelity of whose narrative we place the utmost reliance, that on the 2d day of Sept. last, some persons were digging in a copperas cave, in the county of Warren, state of Tennessee, situated on what is usually called the Cany fork of Cumberland river, ten miles below the Falls. That at about six feet below the surface of the bottom of the cave, something like clothing was discovered, which upon proper examination, was found to be the shroud of some dead bodies. Upon further investigation, the bodies were found to be two in number, a male and female, which, as he expressed it, they judged to have been buried in ancient times. They supposed the male, at the time of his decease, to have been about twenty five years of age. He was enveloped in the following manner—first, with a fine linen shirt—his legs were drawn up and closely bound with dressed deer-skins, then five dressed deer-skins wrapped round them, and a cane mat, sixty feet long, wrapped round the whole. His frame was entire, except the bowels, his hair of a fair complexion, his teeth remarkably sound, and his stature above common. The body of the female was found interred about

three feet from that of the other. Its position of lying was similar to that of the male. The carcass was enveloped first, with two undressed deer skins, under which, upon the face, was found a small cane mat. Three or four dressed deer skins were wrapped round it, over which was folded a cane mat, large enough to cover the whole. There were then five sheets, supposed to be made of nettle lint, wrought up curiously around each with feathers of various kinds and colors. Two fans of feathers were next found upon the breast. The body, with the whole of the described wrapping, was found in what was supposed to be a hair trunk or box, with a cane cover, which was wound upon two well-dressed deer-skins of the largest kind. The whole girted with two straps. This female is supposed to have been from twelve to fifteen years of age—her hair short and black—the body entire—the eyes as full and prominent as if alive.

(Nashville Review.)

The population of the city of New York according to the late census, amounts to 93,914 inhabitants, being an increase of more than 18,000 in five years.

Twelve years ago the county of Jefferson, N. Y. was an entire wilderness. The population of eleven towns thereof, according to the late census, amounts to 15,136 inhabitants. Therein were manufactured last year, 10,623 yards of linen—51,013 yards of woolen—1,392 yards of cotton—and 1,474 yards of mixed cloths. The same towns contain 680 looms—20,505 sheep—8,579 acres of wheat, and 7,036 acres of corn.—Truly doth "the wilderness blossom as the rose."

IMPORTANT TO SEAMEN.

A discovery has been made, and as we learn, a patent has been taken out, for an application of mechanical power, which, if they but correspond with the design and specification, of which we have no doubt, must be of the greatest advantages, in the business of a ship, and to safety in navigation. The principles are, we understand, to consist of a new construction of a wind-lane and means of increasing its power.

The following are among its uses and properties.

It will not require more than one third the number of hands usually employed to get a ship underweigh, (that is, weigh a ship's anchor.)

It does away the use of handspikes.

It reduces the time of getting underweigh to a certainty.

It is attended with more convenience, and expedition in getting underweigh, than the common mode.

You can heave-a-head and get underweigh, (if necessary) in almost any sort of weather, or when blowing fresh.

In case of getting aground, which may often occur, where no assistance can be obtained from the shore, and in perilous situations, the ship's company will be able to exert as much force or power as the best cables are capable of sustaining, for the purpose of floating her again.

The works may be unshipped and laid away at pleasure, and the windlass reduced to its common form.

It is constructed on mechanical principles.

It has been approved of by the members of the philosophical society.

It has also been approved by some of the principal officers of the navy.

A captain for ships of war and merchantmen, has been invented on the above principles, which in merchant vessels, possesses all the advantages of the above, and to ships of war will be highly important in case of getting aground, and waiting an additional purchase to get up the anchor, when deeply buried in the mud, &c.

Aurora.

FROM THE NAT. INTELLIGENCER.

A writer, who signs himself "Publius," has very unadvisedly in my opinion, undertaken to discuss, and in discussion to deny, the power of Congress to inquire into the conduct of a military officer.

There can be no doubt but, in making laws, that Congress are bound by the letter of the written constitution. But their moral powers extend much farther; for, as the grand organ of the people, (who are the absolute sovereign,) they must necessarily purge, by contempt, the officers of government of bad men; and exalt, by applause, such individuals as, in a virtuous course, do more than their mere duty. This moral conservative power of Congress, which is the true salt of our institutions, serves at once as a barrier against the phrenzy of popular faction, and the favoritism of the Executive.

It is in the exercise of their moral faculty that Congress vote thanks to military and naval officers; and bestow by votes, bounties for the deeds of valiant and virtuous men.

The constitution does not, indeed, delegate, in writing, this moral power; because it would be impossible to express, by words, the entire scope which it ought to embrace. It is left, very properly, to the equitable discretion of legislators, who are answerable for its abuse to the people.

AMERICANUS.

Europe.

Further translations for the N. York Evening Post, from Lisbon Gazettes to the 1st of Nov.

Lisbon, Oct. 22.

Copy of a letter from Col. Trant to his excellency the marshal commander in chief.

COIMBRA, Oct. 7.

SIR,

I have great pleasure in informing your excellency, that I have this day happily entered Coimbra, with the loss of a few men only killed and wounded.

In my letter of the 6th inst. I had the honor to inform you, that I intended to proceed to Mialhada in the course of that day, for the purpose of forming a junction with the corps, which were under the command of brigadier general Miller, and of colonel Wilson, and making an attack upon the city; but when I arrived there, I was informed that the said corps were delayed by the want of supplies, in the district near Busaco, which were completely exhausted, and the cavalry not being able to advance with rapidity on account of the fatigues which they had experienced in their former marches.

The only alternative which remained, in order to prevent any defensive measures from being taken in Coimbra, as I was within three leagues of the city, was to march thither with my own division only, it being probable that the enemy was as yet ignorant of my arrival at Mialhada.

For this reason I began my march at midnight, preceded by a squadron of cavalry, commanded by that brave officer licut. Dantel, whose name on another occasion I mentioned to your excellency. The regiment of Coimbra had the post of honor in front of the column of infantry. My plan of attack was to enter Coimbra at two different points at the same time; one division by the road of Oporto, and the other separating itself from the column immediately on passing the hills, was to gain the heights east of the city, and entering the arch of Santa Anna, to pro-

ceed to Loreto; but this plan was to be executed only in case the enemy should be met with at the gates.

At a small distance from the kilns on the road of Mialhada, I met a detachment of the enemy to the left of this city, and commencing a fire I extended the cavalry to the kilns, and fortunately cut off all communication with Coimbra. The enemy's detachment surrendered after having lost some men; and not meeting with any other of the enemy's troops by the principal roads, and after crossing the bridge of Mondego to follow the Lisbon road in order to intercept all communication with the army, which was performed with the greatest spirit and gallantry by lieutenant Dantel, with the loss of only one dragoon who was killed.

I ordered the divisions of infantry to march to the principal places in the city, where we were resisted about an hour, in which time we had only two men killed, and twenty-five men wounded, among whom is colonel Serpe of the regiment of Penafel. This col. commanded the first brigade, the conduct of which is worthy of your excellency's approbation. The principal force of the enemy which was stationed in Santa Clara, on the side of the Mondego, maintained for some time an irregular fire upon our cavalry when it passed the bridge first upon our officer who commanded there, as soon as he observed that lieutenant Dantel had crossed the bridge proposed a capitulation; I had then advanced as far as the convent, and would admit of no other proposition than that of surrendering at discretion, promising them however my protection from the insults of the peasants. The troops laid down their arms and retired.

I have reason to believe that the number of prisoners exceeds five thousand, of which four thousand are on their march to Oporto, including an entire company of the marine guards of the emperor, three thousand five hundred muskets were taken, and almost all of them were loaded, by which a judgment may be formed of the soldiers who were in a condition for defensive service.

I have caused these arms to be distributed among the country militia. We found no artillery, but we seized a quantity of oxen and sheep, which the enemy had collected for the subsistence of their troops, & which is, a great acquisition to ours. It is supposed that there are eighty officers among the prisoners. The chief commissary, Mr. Flandin, who acted as governor will remain at Coimbra, being sick. From the nature of the attack, your excellency will easily conceive how difficult it was to oblige the soldiers and armed peasantry, not to plunder the prisoners, and I am sorry to say the peasants committed some acts of violence; but I judge that from 600 to 800 Frenchmen only were victims to their resentment. I must observe that nothing can exceed the state of misery in which I found this city. The enemy not content with having sacked it throughout, and plundering it of every valuable that could be found, had set on fire some houses and piled up in the streets in the greatest disorder, all the provisions which they could not take with them; for which reason it could not be expected that near eight hundred soldiers, natives of this city and its neighborhood, accompanied by their miserable relatives and acquaintances could be patient witnesses of a scene of devastation, in which their property had been destroyed in a manner so unjust and scandalous; notwithstanding I beg your excellency to be persuaded that every possible effort was used to protect the French who fell in our power, and after the first moments I succeeded in securing them from insult.

As the corps of brigadier general Miller and of colonel Wilson arrived here in the morning, I propose to leave one of my brigades, and march with the rest of my division, as an escort, to Oporto; for to such a degree has the animosity of the country people been excited by the last passage of the French army, that I consider my presence absolutely necessary, and particularly in the districts between the Mondego and the Vouga.

I shall close this account by assuring your excellency, that the bravery of the troops on this occasion deserved the highest credit; it being impossible for me to eulogize any individuals, when all highly distinguished themselves.

I have the honor to be, &c.

NICHOLAS TRANT.

His Excellency Marshal Beresford.

FROM THE FREEMAN'S JOURNAL.

FROM HAVANNA.

Extract of a letter from Havanna, dated 6th Sept. 1810.

"The Bulwark British 74 arrived here some days ago from Vera Cruz, with four millions of dollars on the king's account, and some on private account, bound to Cadiz. We daily expect the Atocha (Spanish ship of war) with an equal sum, also bound to Cadiz. General Venegas, the new viceroy of Mexico, has arrived from Spain, and taken possession of the Viceroyalty amidst the acclamations of the Mexicans who received him with all the honors and affection due to a defender of his king and his country, against tyranny and usurpation."

Virginia Legislature.

HOUSE OF DELEGATES.

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 5.

Petitions were received, read and referred to the following persons, viz.

From Robert Hardcastle, praying leave to bring certain Slaves into this State.

From James Cheatham praying for a divorce.

From W. DuVal, praying to be authorized to sell certain tract of Land in Buckingham, vested in him as Trustee.

From Jacob Peck, for the remission of a fine.

From J. Fairfax and wife, for leave to bring Slaves into this State.

From sundry inhabitants of Pittsylvania and other counties, representing certain defects in the present organization of the courts of chancery, and praying the interposition of the Legislature to remedy said defects, &c.

From the Mutual Assurance Society against Fire on Buildings in the State of Virginia, praying certain alterations in the mode of collecting the debts due the said Society.

From Lynchburg, &c. praying for the establishment of a toll-bridge across James River at said town.

From Lynchburg, &c. praying the passage of a Law augmenting and extending the capital stock of the Bank of Virginia in such a manner, that a branch of discount and deposit may be established in the said town of Lynchburg.

From the inhabitants of Fauquier, &c. for a town to be laid out in said county to be called Paris.

From Norfolk, praying for an act authorizing certain alterations in Concord street in the said borough.

From James Beck of Fredericksburg, praying some compensation from the state in consequence of a wound received in assisting to execute a warrant in said town.

From Campbell McCauley, stating that in consequence of a number of wounds received during the revolutionary war, he is in his advanced age, unable to sustain himself by his labour, and praying some provision for his necessities.

FROM GREAT BARGAINS!!!

THE late arrivals of Fall & Winter GOODS, enables John King to give GREAT BARGAINS for cash.

November 30.